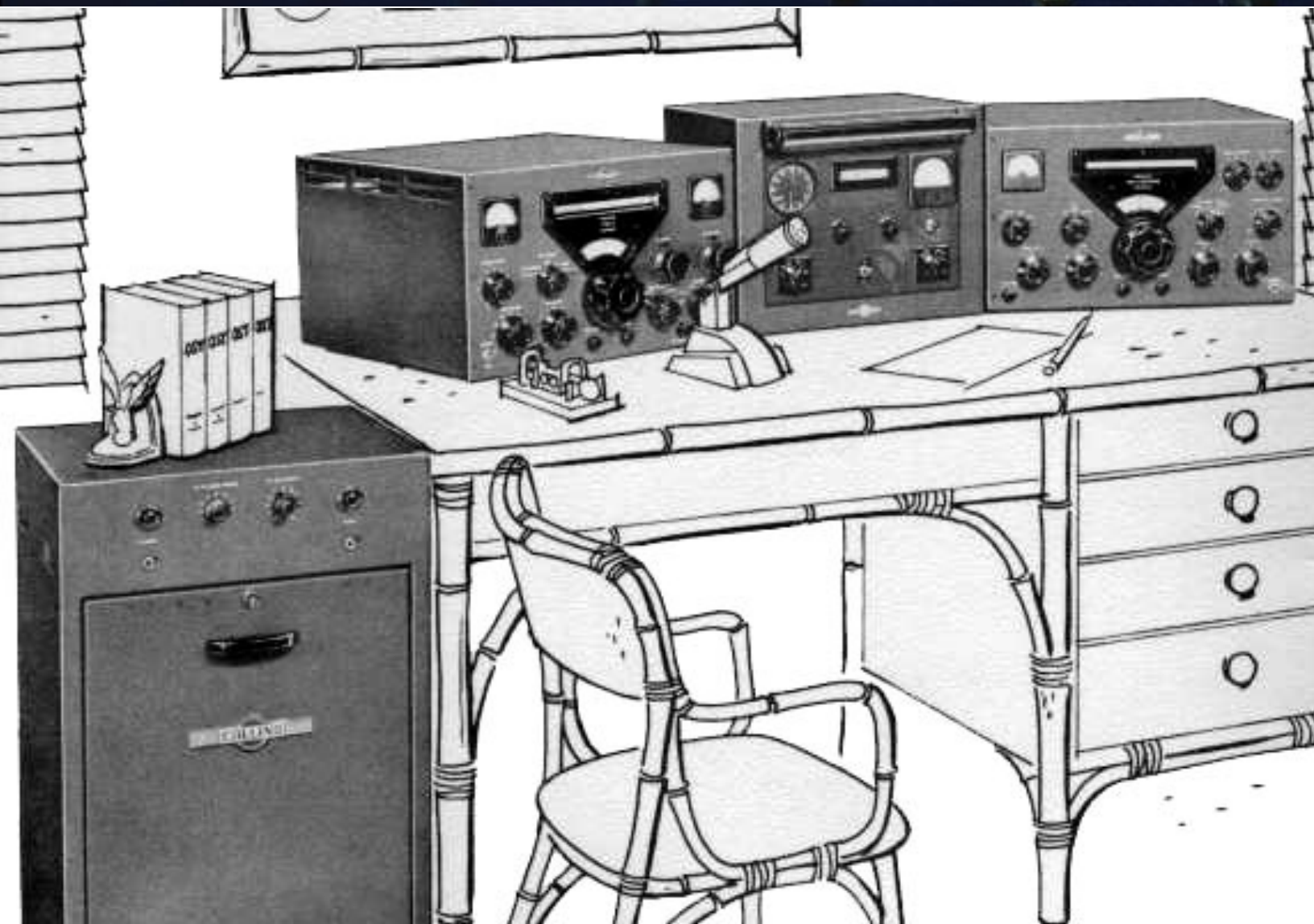


San Diego DX Club San Diego



May 2010



Meeting program: Bud, N7CW will present his 9L5A DXpedition to Sierra Leone

65th ANNIVERSARY BASH NOTICE
SUNDAY MAY 23, 2010
11:30 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M.
14250 CALLE DE VISTA
VALLEY CENTER, CA 92082

MEETING NOTICE: JOIN US AT THE SIZZLER
AERO DRIVE & MURPHY CANYON RD
WEDNESDAY MAY 26, 2010
SOCIAL HOUR, 5:00 P.M.
DINNER, 5:30 P.M.

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SDDXC Top 10

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Contest Calendar

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2010 Officers

President:

Wayne Zimmerman NN6R

(858) 451-0458

wzimmermanll@cox.net

Vice President:

Gayle Olson K6GO

(858) 673-9201

k6go@arrl.net

Secretary/Treasurer:

Leon Helms N6VS

(760) 489-8658

lhelms@cox.net

Past President:

Glenn Rattmann K6NA

760-749-3936

k6na@cts.com

Board of Directors:

Harry Hodges, W6YOO

(760) 743-4212

w6yoo@cox.net

Jim Stevenson W6YI

(760) 749-4080

w6yi@aol.com

Tom Myrick N6JOJ

(619) 449-3547

trmyrick@cox.net

Ladder:

John Barcroft K6AM

k6am@arrl.net

Webmaster:

Arnie Lewin W7BIA

w7bia@cox.net

Editor:

Bob Farkaly K9RHY

(858) 674-4618

k9rhy@arrl.org

rfarkaly@san.rr.com

From the Prez

Wayne Zimmerman NN6R



Well, by now most of the excitement surrounding the International DX Convention has settled down. I think now everyone is anxious to get back to working some DX. The big question, what has happened to the bands? Perhaps I have a short memory, but I can't remember conditions this bad in a long time. Granted there is some DX that shows up time and again, but for the most part the bands have been dead. I haven't seen the "A" index this high in quite some time. Conditions have to improve soon though, right?

I am very pleased to report that the response to the club shirts and hats has been great. Orders from over 25 members have come in so far. We will take a break until after the 1st of July before we open it up for more orders.

Plans are coming along quite well for our 65th Anniversary BASH in a few weeks – Sunday May 23 to be specific, at Glenn's K6NA's QTH. The straw poll we took at the last club meeting indicated quite a turnout is expected. A BASH in May should bring better weather than we've experienced when held in August. Remember, we will be giving out the commemorative coffee mugs at the BASH. You saw a sample at the last meeting, and everyone seemed quite impressed with how they turned out.

Don't forget to bring something according to the first letter of you suffix, to wit:

A – H = Appetizer

I – P = Side Dish

Q – Z = Des-

sert

The club will be furnishing burgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, buns, utensils and drinks. We are expecting a great turnout and a fun time and looking forward to seeing all of you. Help us celebrate an historical milestone for our club.

DX IS !

73, Wayne, NN6R

The San Diego DX Club (SDDXC) is among the best known and most highly respected DX clubs in the United States. Since it's founding in 1946, SDDXC members have been on both sides of the pile-ups with DXpeditions and a fair share have achieved "Top of the Honor Roll" status. If you're interested in chasing DX, contesting, exchanging stories or just rubbing elbows with fellow "Big Guns" or "Little Pistols", you'll feel right at home at one of our club meetings. Join us at our next meeting. Visitors are particularly welcome!

Treasurers Report

Leon Helms, N6VS



Treasurers Report

Bank Balance as of April 1, 2010 4,860.13

Income:

Membership dues 60.00

Shirt and hat purchases 473.18

Expenses:

Purchase of shirts and hats 616.03

Postage 20.15

Birthday BASH mugs 614.00

Bank balance May 1, 2010 4,143.07

Petty Cash on hand 20.00

Balance checking & Petty Cash 4,163.07

Antenna Ordinance balance -142.75

San Diego DX Club Meeting Minutes

The San Diego DX Club held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 28, 2010 at the Sizzler Restaurant, Aero drive at Murphy Canyon Road. President Wayne Zimmerman, NN6R called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. There were 38 members and guests present. W7MO, Paul was recognized as a visitor. A special congratulation was extended to Rusty, AF6WF for becoming an Extra Class licensee.

Wayne extended the clubs thanks to all who helped out at the convention and recognized the prize winners. A discussion was held regarding the details of the Birthday Bash. We welcome W5BN, Fred, AF6WF, Rusty and K6KAL, Dick as new members.

The roundtable was as lively as ever with contest results, and DX worked reports.

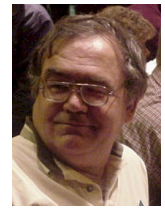
Hans, AE6XG presented a very interesting program of his experiences while working in the Congo to restore their communications system between 1962 and 1964.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:54 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Leon Helms N6VS secretary/treasurer

The SDDXC Top 10

John, K6AM



TOTAL COUNTRIES WORKED ON 17 METERS

5/10	5/09	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	W6YA	40	?	?	331	+1
2.	2.	K6AM	40	320	323	325	+3
3.	3.	N6ND	40	201	201	319	+2
4.	4.	N7CW	40	251	251	309	-
5.	7.	K6TQ	40	306	306	306	+24
6.	6	N6CW	25	?	188	285	-
7.	8.	K6XT	40	131	131	269	-
8.	9.	W6YOO	37	268	268	268	+7
9.	-	K0XB	38	231	231	261	NEW
10.	10.	N6AW	40	255	257	259	-

TOTAL COUNTRIES WORKED ON 12 METERS

5/10	5/09	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	W6YA	40	?	?	312	+1
2.	2.	K6AM	40	303	303	306	+1
3.	3.	N6ND	40	172	173	304	-
4.	6.	K6TQ	38	279	279	279	+14
5.	5.	N7CW	39	197	197	266	-
6.	7.	N6CW	39	?	180	262	-
7.	8.	N6AW	40	219	220	227	-
8.	10.	W6YOO	36	219	219	219	+2
9.	9.	K6XT	40	94	94	219	-
10.	-	W6EUF	37	183	187	214	NEW

One of our top contenders, Bill, K6TQ came out of an 8 year seclusion to update his impressive totals and reclaim his rightful place in the Top Ten. As the new cycle begins to peek over the horizon, these bands are starting to show some life. There were a few EU openings on 12 in the past month or so. 17 remains a very viable band and should continue to get much better in the years to come.

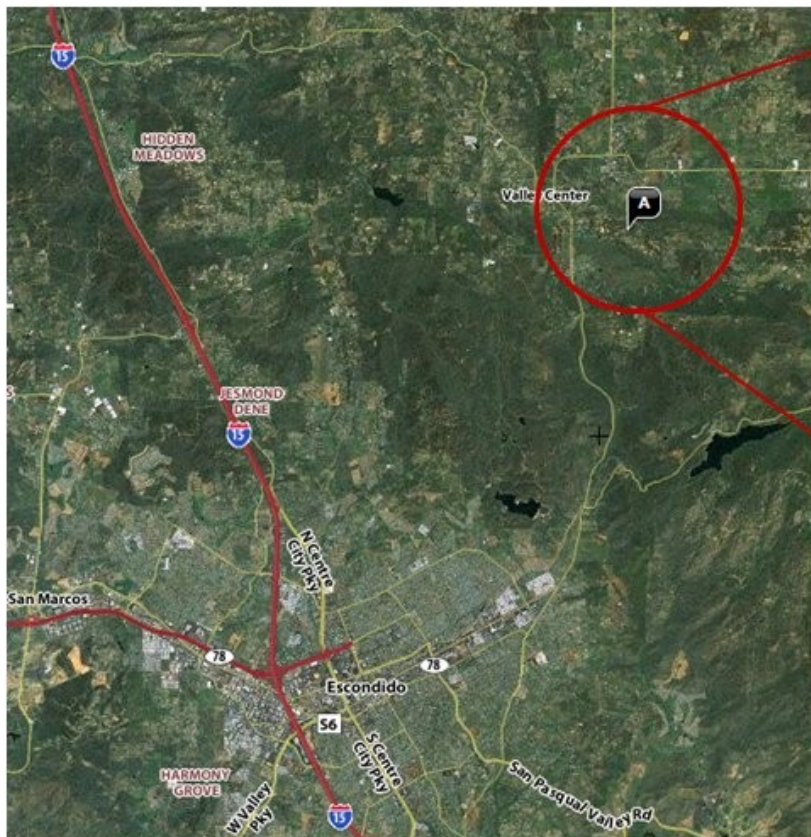
Both of these lists are much easier to break into than the other bands. If you're not playing the WARC bands, you're missing a chance to experience the thrill of working a new one several times every month. The little Cushcraft WARC dipole is all you need to get started. The newer Force 12 Antennas work on 12 and 17 with a couple dB of gain as well.

Each month, we will publish top ten lists for one of the lesser recognized but hard won categories. Coming up next, 160 meters, RTTY and band-countries. Please send me your totals for each band throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. Use the convenient form at

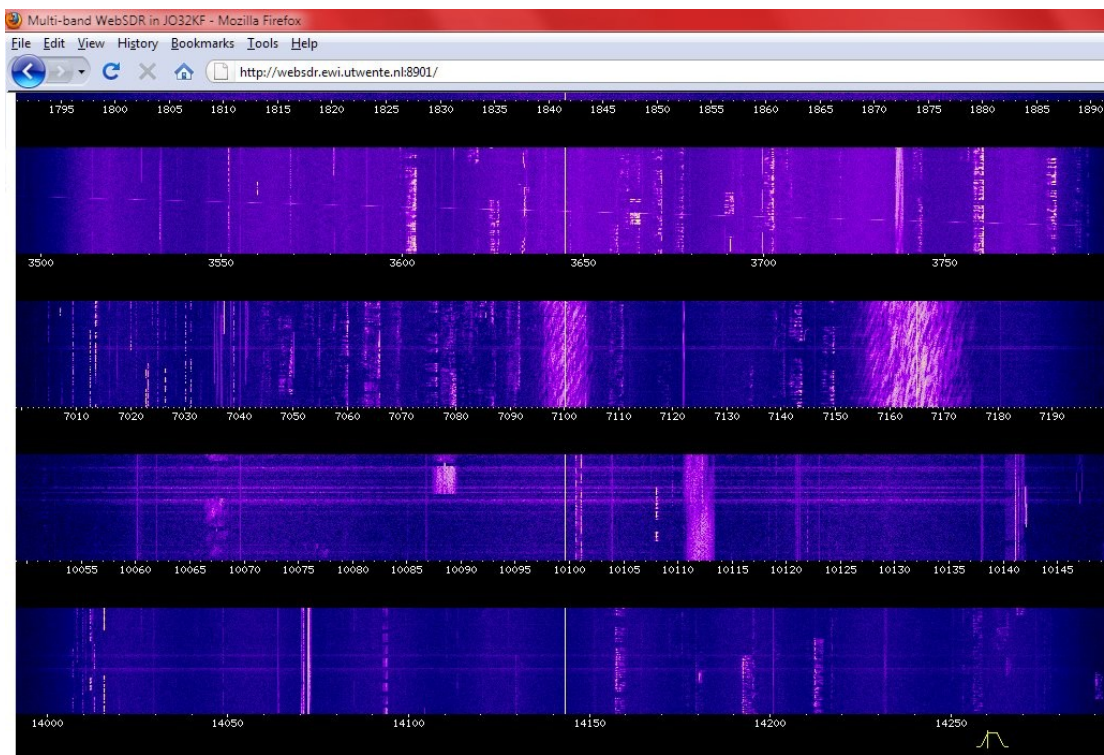
<http://www.sddxc.org>

or bring 'em to the meeting.

DX Is!!



K6NA
GLENN R RATTMANN
14250 CALLE DE VISTA
VALLEY CENTER, CA 92082



Tune your web browser to <http://websdr.ewi.utwente.nl:8901/> and enjoy one of the neatest shared Software Defined Radios on the internet. Run by the Experimentele Telecommunicatie Groep Drienerlo (ETGD) at the University of Twente in the Netherlands, this shared radio lets you hear what the Europeans are hearing as they are hearing it. The radio is incredibly easy to use and gives great results. There is no competition for bands or modes as everyone gets their own "virtual radio". Tuning is both easy and intuitive and the radio is open and available to all.

Frequency:
14260.03 kHz
down 50 Hz up 50 Hz
LF MF 160m 80m 40m 30m 20m
Or tune by clicking/dragging on the frequency scale.

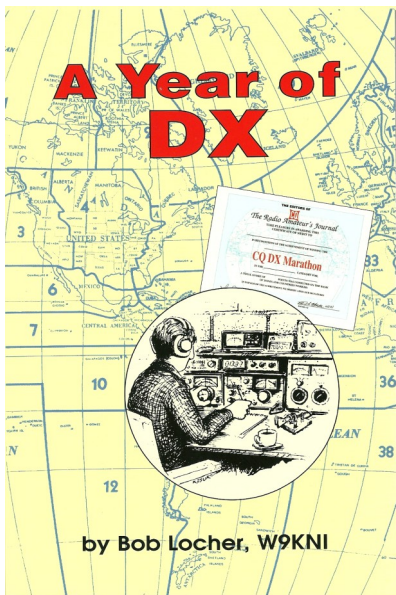
Bandwidth:
2.49 kHz @ -6dB; 2.95 kHz @ -60dB.
wider CW-wide LSB USB AM
narrower CW-narrow LSB-nw USB-nw AM-nw
Or drag the passband edges on the frequency scale.

Waterfall settings:

Speed:	Size:	View:
<input checked="" type="radio"/> slow	<input type="radio"/> small	<input type="radio"/> spectrum
<input type="radio"/> medium	<input checked="" type="radio"/> medium	<input checked="" type="radio"/> waterfall
<input type="radio"/> fast	<input type="radio"/> large	<input type="radio"/> weak sigs
<input type="checkbox"/> almost freeze all but one		<input type="radio"/> strong sigs

Signal strength: -94.1 dB; peak -94.1 dB;
mute

This year's Summer BASH will be held at Wayne and Sharon Spring's (W6IRD) place in Orange on Sunday August 22



"A Year of DX"

Author: Bob Locher W9KNI

I've known Bob Locher for about 25 years, since we were both NIDXA members in the Chicago area. W9KNI was bigger than life for me as he stood all alone at the #1 spot on the ARRL DXCC CW Honor Roll for years. I was delighted to run into him again at this year's Visalia DX Convention and learned he had a new book out. We chatted about the book, walked out to his car, opened the trunk and I had an autographed first edition! And what a treat this book has been!

You may have read (and enjoyed as much as I did) some of Bob's earlier writing. He is the author of the best selling DX book of all time, "The Complete DX'er" now in its 3rd edition, a book in which I am honored to have several mentions (thanks for the immortality, Bob!). Idiom Press, a company Bob started in 1982 and now run by his son Rob, W7GH, published both *A Year of DX* and *The Complete DX'er*.

While *The Complete DX'er* is in part a "how to" guide, *A Year of DX* is a narrative – a story about a DX'er living in semi-retirement in Grants Pass, Oregon who sets out to win the 2008 CQ DX Marathon. I use the term "semi-retired" a bit loosely because Bob continues with his writing and remains active as part owner of Bencher, Inc., maker of the Bencher and Mercury paddles, the Bencher hand key, low pass filters and the Skyhawk and Skylark Yagis. Bencher also manufactures and sells the Butternut antenna product line.

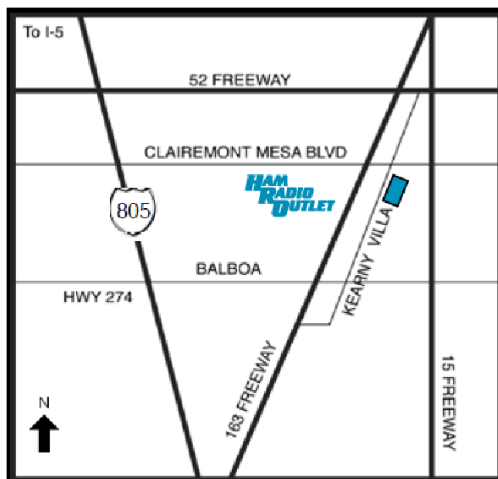
For anyone not familiar with the DX Marathon, it is an annual operating event in which you work as many countries and CQ Zones as you can in a calendar year, regardless of the band or mode. Each country and zone counts only once, so you can concentrate on working new ones rather than working the same ones on multiple bands or modes. The DX Marathon uses the CQ Magazine DX list, which includes a few entities not included in the official ARRL DXCC countries list - which adds to the thrill of the chase because they don't show up quite as often on the DXCluster.

My favorite quote: "I also learned I particularly hate SSB pile-ups."

A Year of DX will keep all DXers turning the pages, but the book's "sweet spot" is the DXer who is at or near the Top of the Honor Roll and who already knows what it takes to put the toughest catches into the logbook. *A Year of DX* is a unique opportunity to look over the shoulder of a professional at the peak of his game, pulling out all the stops to beat competitors who are also at the peak of their games. It can be read at many levels, but it's like Phil Mickelson reading a book about golf written by Tiger Woods.

Throughout the book, Bob adds to the narrative with his thoughts about station optimization, operating tactics, DX hunting strategy and propagation. But I kept asking myself why he didn't buy a new instant-on linear at the start of the year rather than at the end of the year (you'll understand this comment by the time you get through the first few chapters).

Anyone who enjoyed "The Complete DX'er" as much as I did will surely be delighted with "A Year of DX". I strongly recommend it to all serious DXers.



SAN DIEGO, CA 92123
5375 Kearny Villa Rd. #113
Hwy. 163 & Clairemont Mesa Blvd.
(858) 560-4900
(800) 854-6046
24 Hour FAX (858) 560-1705
Email: sandiego@hamradio.com

Jose XE2SJB
Jerry N5MCJ
Ed KB5FNX

2010 ARRL Southwestern Division Convention
September 17, 18 & 19, 2010
San Diego, California
Four Points Hotel Sheraton, San Diego

It's time for one of the best ARRL Conventions on the West Coast! Come see the Ham Gear and take in the sights of Sunny San Diego!

For up to date information about the Convention, please visit us at the website: www.sandarc.org/Click on Convention Button.

Contact Person: Paul KC6QLS at (619) 593-9445 or Email at kc6qls@cox.net

See you at the Convention!

SDDXC's 65th Birthday Party

Afternoon barbeque at K6NA's QTH Sunday May 23rd from 11:30 to 5:00

Menu:

Club-supplied hamburgers, veggie burgers, buns, condiments, plates and cups

[If you prefer a steak, feel free to bring and cook it]

Tom will be the chef-in-charge

Pot lock by attendees is based on the **suffix** of your call sign

A-H = appetizer I-P = side dishes Q-Z = dessert

June Contests

Contest	Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time
SEANET Contest	5-June	1200Z	6-June	1200Z
All Asian DX Contest, CW	19-June	0000Z	20-June	2400Z
ARRL Field Day	26-June	1800Z	27-June	2100Z